

### DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor, if only one name is listed below, or an original, first and joint inventor, if plural names are listed below, of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

#### **POST AND BEAM FURNITURE SYSTEM**

the specification of which

XX is attached hereto.

was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ and assigned Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (the Office), all information which is known by me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), § 1.56.

#### **CLAIM OF PRIORITY**

I hereby claim foreign benefits under Title 35, United States Code (U.S.C.), § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b), of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application, having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Application Ser. No. NA, filed in NA, on NA

Application Ser. No. NA, filed in NA, on NA

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120, of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the above-identified specification, including claims, discloses and claims subject matter in addition to that disclosed in the prior copending application(s), listed below. I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office, all information which is known by me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. Serial No. NA, filed on NA, and now NA

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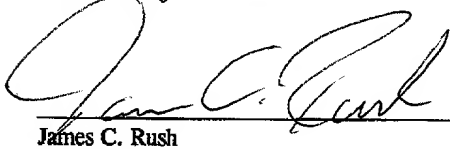
#### **POWER OF ATTORNEY**

I hereby appoint the practitioners associated with the Customer Number provided below (i.e., the practitioners associated with the law firm of Price, Heneveld, Cooper, DeWitt and Litton) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. Please direct all correspondence to the address associated with that Customer Number.

Customer Number 000,277

All statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further, these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issued thereon.

Sole or First joint inventor:

 2/28/01  
Date

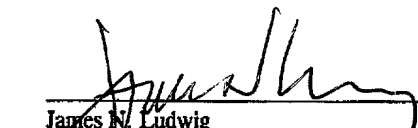
James C. Rush

Citizenship: USA

Residence: 1975 Creek Ridge  
Kentwood, MI 49508

Post Office Address: 1975 Creek Ridge  
Kentwood, MI 49508

Second joint inventor:

 2/28/01  
Date

James N. Ludwig

Citizenship: USA

Residence: 2317 Boston Street SE  
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Post Office Address: 2317 Boston Street SE  
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Third joint inventor:

 2/28/01  
Date

Karl Heinz Müller

Citizenship: Germany

Residence: 1025 Kenesaw Drive  
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Post Office Address: 1025 Kenesaw Drive  
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Fourth joint inventor:

 2/28/01  
Date

Steven C. Gortsema

Citizenship: USA

Residence: 4581 Happy Hollow  
Grandville, MI 49418

Post Office Address: 4581 Happy Hollow  
Grandville, MI 49418

Fifth joint inventor:

\_\_\_\_\_  
David A. Dunlap Date  
Citizenship: USA  
Residence: 5057 South Long Lake Drive  
Portage, MI 49002  
Post Office Address: 5057 South Long Lake Drive  
Portage, MI 49002

Sixth joint inventor:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Danhui (NMI) Luo Date  
Citizenship: People's Republic of China  
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Holland MI 49424  
Post Office Address: 12061-2A Meadow Lane Court  
Holland MI 49424

Seventh joint inventor:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debajit (NMI) Guha Date  
Citizenship: India  
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Holland, MI 49424  
Post Office Address: 12011 S. Meadow Spring Drive, Apt. #2  
Holland, MI 49424

Eighth joint inventor:

Atty. Dkt. No. STE01 P-1086  
Express Mail No. EL554325967US

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Karl Heinz Müller \_\_\_\_\_ Date  
 Citizenship: Germany  
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Fifth joint inventor:

 2/28/01  
 David A. Dunlap \_\_\_\_\_ Date  
 Citizenship: USA  
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Seventh joint inventor:

 2/28/01  
 Debajit (NMI) Guha \_\_\_\_\_ Date  
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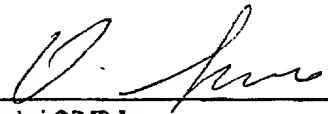
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